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COUNTRY East Germany REPORT NO. TOPIC Military Information from Bernau

EVALUATION see below PLACE OBTAINED 25X1

DATE OF CONTENT 30 September to 15 October 1952

DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 20 November 1952

REFERENCES

PAGES 4 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. On 15 October 1952, the Luftnachrichten Kaserne north of Schoenower Strasse, Bernau (N 53/Z 96), was occupied to capacity by at least 2,000 personnel including 750 soldiers of an artillery unit, about 650 of a tank unit and 300 each of an engineer unit and a signal unit and 100 women wearing red-bordered black epaulets. On 14 October, 4 trucks, towing 57-mm AT guns were seen in an open shed. Another 8 x 57-mm AT guns were arranged in two rows behind the shed. On 15 October, truck [] left the installation carrying 5 x 45-mm AT guns and occupied by 1 officer with artillery insignia and 6 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets. Soldiers sang and drilled in the barracks area and maintained trucks. Two new wooden buildings were under construction in the northeast section of the installation. [] 25X1
[] left the installation for drivers' practice. [] 25X1

2. On 15 October, the SS homing pigeon station in Rutenfeld was occupied by about 500 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia. A column of 10 trucks entered the installation from the direction of the Luftnachrichten Kaserne. 2
3. On 15 October, the restricted area on Karl Marx Strasse was occupied to capacity. There was heavy traffic from and to the Luftnachrichten Kaserne.
4. On 14 and 15 October, about 30 percent of the windows of only one of the buildings of Army Clothing Depot I on Schoenower Strasse were lighted after dusk. All the other buildings were dark. No sentry was noticed. 3

5. On 13 October, the Luftnachrichten Kaserne on Schoenower Strasse was occupied to capacity. A new shed in the southwest section of the installation housed 12 medium AT guns and a number of motor vehicles, [] 25X1
[] Another 24 medium AT guns were being painted by several soldiers. They were near the shed. Fifteen armored scout cars were in the northeast section

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of the installation. Intensive firing of rifles and machine guns was heard from the firing range north of the installation.

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6. On and after 30 September, the SS homing pigeon station in Rutenfeld was occupied to capacity by troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia. Fifteen 85-mm AA guns were aligned in the yard of the installation. Numerous trucks and sedans were seen through the open doors of the sheds. Trucks [] stood at the gate. [] that he saw the troops in the installation who, in spring, had departed for the troop training grounds. The AA aiming devices which were previously seen and had mobile miniature aircraft and parachutes for targets were again at their previous places. Small signal flags again were on the emplacements which, however, were still without guns. Small groups of soldiers were engaged in cleaning and reconditioning work all over the area, fixing fences and renovating sheds. On 15 October, a company was drilling at the drill grounds. []²

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7. When the troops returned to the post on and after 26 September, the following:

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8. [] the Luftnachrichten Kaserne during the period from 4 to 11 October, that only part of the entire tank unit had arrived in Bernau from Kannenburg prior to 11 October. [] stated the troops still stationed in Kannenburg would stay there for the winter. All buildings in the barracks area were occupied. Numerous T-34/85 tanks and JS-3 tanks were seen in the garages. [] that he saw no JS-1 tanks. Also seen were rocket launchers as well as mortars, similar to the German 6 or 8-tube rocket launcher which were coupled to trucks, had two-wheel carriages and were about 122-mm caliber. [] that the units in Bernau and Bad Freienwalde were affiliated. [] were identified in conjunction with food received in Bernau for the troops. [] that supply vehicles [] while combat vehicles had the [] Two-axle Studebaker and Ford trucks were turned in by the troops while three-axle Studebakers as well as new ZIS trucks and Molotov trucks were retrained. When the troops returned from the summer camp, [] that a large number of recruits had already arrived in Bernau and that they received basic training without arms. Part of the trained soldiers were discharged home from Kannenburg. Other soldiers maintained tanks and motor vehicles and thoroughly overhauled all vehicles in mid-October. [] that the tires of a truck were exchanged although they had been used for only three months.¹

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25X1 10. In early October, [REDACTED] the Kech office in Eberswalde received an order to erect barracks buildings in Hammelspring. They were part of the second stage of the construction program in Templin. A total of 6 million eastmarks was appropriated. [REDACTED] the deforestation of the area began on 13 October and the special construction bureau in Eberswalde was responsible for the project. [REDACTED]

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25X1 1. [REDACTED] Comment. In mid-October 1952, the Luftnachrichten Kaserne was probably occupied by the units of the 6th Gds Mecz Div which had been stationed there prior to their departure for the summer training. They included the division headquarters, the 35th Gds Mecz Regt, the 676th How Arty Regt, the 33d Gds Sig Bn, the 52d Gds RL Bn, the 22d Gds Engr Bn, and the 35th Tank Tng Bn. They would add up to a total strength of about 4,400 soldiers. It is, therefore, possible that small elements of the division are still at the Templin troop training grounds and, according to a report [REDACTED] 500 had remained as a guard detail in Camp Kannenburg. [REDACTED] The information contained in paragraph 5 of the present report in conjunction with motor vehicle [REDACTED] makes it appear as if units of the 11th Gds AT Arty Brig (?) were temporarily stationed in the barracks installation, probably until the completion of construction in Army Clothing Depot I. The rocket launchers which resembled the German 6 and 8-tube rocket launchers were observed for the first time in East Germany. No previous information indicated discharges of trained soldiers at the Templin troop training grounds. [REDACTED] probably belongs to the Soviet Motor Inspectorate with the COFG or SCC which was previously stationed in Potsdam. [REDACTED] confirms the Hq 6th Gds Mecz Div in Bernau until 11 October 1952. [REDACTED] to the trade agency of the Fourth Gds Mecz Army in Eberswalde.

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25X1 2. [REDACTED] Comment. The unidentified (120?) AAA Regt of the 6th Gds Mecz Div is again believed stationed at the SS homing pigeon station. The 15 medium AA guns seen confirm a report [REDACTED] who also saw 16 guns of this type with the AA regiment of the 9th Gds Tank Div in Neustrelitz. It is possible that the AAA regiments of the tank and mechanized divisions have a battalion of four batteries with four medium guns to each battery in addition to 24 light guns.

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4. [] Comment. For the unloading, compare [] The information 25X1
contained in the present report indicates [] 62 T-34 and 24 JS 25X1
tanks being unloaded. As these could only be tanks of the 35th Gds Mecz Regt of the
6th Gds Mecz Div which has about 35 T-34 tanks, [] confused armored
scout cars with tanks as a result of the poor light. 25X1

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5. [] Comment. In early October 1952, [] reported that 30 25X1
buildings were under construction between Vogelsang and Hammelspring under
supervision of the special construction bureau. [] 25X1

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